

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 2 are amended, claim 3 is cancelled and claims 4 and 5 are added.

The specification was objected to for failing to provide antecedent basis for claims 1-3. Applicants herein provide the following explanation as to why at least the example discussed on pages 17-26 and illustrated by Figs. 27 and 29 discloses all of the features recited in claims 1, 2, 4 and 5.

Applicants' Figs. 27 and 29 disclose a thin film magnetic head with a substrate (21), a first magnetic layer (27), a second magnetic layer (30), a write gap layer (29), a third magnetic layer (37), a first layer (32), a second layer (35), a first insulating layer (33), a second insulating layer (34), and a third insulating layer (36). The features recited in new claim 4 are supported by Fig. 27 and the features recited in new claim 5 are supported by Fig. 29.

In view of the association between the features recited in claim 1 and the reference numerals used in the specification, Applicants assert that the specification is clear in supporting all of the features recited in claims 1, 2, 4 and 5. It is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The features recited in claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 were clarified above in view of the specification. As such, the scope of Applicants' invention can be determined in order to allow for a meaningful search. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

Request for Continued Examination
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: December 22, 2005

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